



## McGREGOR W. SCOTT

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## NEWS RELEASE

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### **FIREARMS TRAFFICKER ARRESTED**

Fresno—United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott announced today that Sidney Higgins of Clovis, California, appeared in federal court today to be arraigned on eight counts of firearms and drug trafficking offenses. Higgins was arrested on February 8, 2008 when search warrants were served at his residence in Clovis and his business in Fresno.

This case is the product of an extensive/joint investigation by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives; Clovis Police Department; and Fresno Police Department.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Kimberly A. Sanchez, who is prosecuting the case, the indictment alleges that between October 2007 and December 2007, the defendant sold multiple firearms without being licensed—including two machine guns and a silencer—and that he sold methamphetamine on three occasions.

The maximum statutory penalty for the firearms and drug trafficking offenses is 170 years imprisonment and a fine of \$7,250,000. The actual sentence, however, will be determined at the discretion of the court after consideration of the Federal Sentencing Guidelines, which take into account a number of variables and any applicable statutory sentencing factors.

The charges are only allegations and the defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

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